

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors – Tompkins County SWCD
August 15, 2016
170 Bostwick Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Present: Jim Dennis, Dan Carey, Aaron Ristow, Alan Teeter
Staff: Jon Negley, Kym Jackson
Agencies: Patrick Barry, NRCS

Dan Carey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:40pm. A quorum was present.

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

A. Ristow moved to approve the minutes as presented. J. Dennis seconded. No discussion. Carried.

Reports of Other Agencies:

J. Negley reviewed the SWCC August report and it is attached.

Patrick read his written report and it is attached. He also announced the Soil & Water Conservation Society will host a meeting/regional workshop. It is tentatively scheduled for September 16th at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County. Members and non-members are all welcome. The meeting would also count towards Performance Measures. Pat will follow up as soon as it is confirmed.

Staff/Project Reports:

Paul Gier and Angel Hinickle provided written reports and they are attached. Paul Gier gave an update on the STAIEP Round 1 grant. Eight out of the ten applications submitted were awarded. Round 2 began on August 1st and TCSWCD has already received three applications. From the interest the District has received, he is expecting 12 to 13 applications for Round 2. There is a possibility that the funds allocated to the District could be exhausted in Round 2.

Alan Teeter arrived at 4:09pm.

Paul also noted most of the applications received to date are for renovations or new construction.

Paul also spoke about water restrictions, registrations, and permit requirements through the NYSDEC as there are many concerns with the current drought situation. FSA is also requesting any losses be reported to them. Although there is no funding assistance currently, there may be in the future if great losses are documented. Jon also noted he was interviewed today by CNY Central News out of Syracuse regarding drought conditions. It will be aired on channels 3 and 5 tonight.

Financial Report:

J. Dennis moved to approve the financial reports for the month of July. A. Teeter seconded. Jon advised the bark blower will be delivered soon to Cayuga Compost to demo and test. Jon will let the Board know when it is scheduled if they would like to be present. A vote was taken and the financial reports were approved. Motion Carried.

D. Carey moved to approve the August, 2016 Vouchers. J. Dennis seconded. The backup of the QuickBooks accounting software was discussed. Kym and Jon would like to return to the QuickBooks online backup system. Currently, the County does perform backups, however, they are not as frequent and not as accessible due to the program not being on

the County network system. The Board approved the QuickBooks online backup subscription at approximately \$5.00 per month.

The Board also recommended that if the new GPS system will be used by other municipalities or agencies, a service agreement should be executed by both parties prior to its use.

A vote was taken and the vouchers listed in the Board Packet were approved. Motion Carried.

Pat departed at 4:36pm.

Old Business

- None.

New Business:

- RESOLUTION 2016-37 – Entering into contract agreement with FOLLOWPA for US Fish and Wildlife Service’s Aquatic Nuisance Species Eradication Grant FY 15 - \$225,000 (Hydrilla). A. Ristow made the motion to approve, A. Teeter seconded. No discussion. A vote was taken and the adoption of Resolution No. 2016-37 was accepted. Motion carried.
- RESOLUTION 2016-38 – Entering into contract with NYS Ag and Markets for AEM reimbursement Yr 12. D. Carey made the motion to approve, J. Dennis seconded. A vote was taken and the adoption of Resolution No. 2016-38 was accepted. Motion carried.
- D. Carey recused himself from participating in the meeting due to the next resolutions topic at 4:40pm. A. Teeter requested a motion for Resolution 2016-39.
- RESOLUTION 2016-39 – Entering into contracts with STAIEP awarded farms under Round 1 of program. A. Ristow made the motion to approve, J. Dennis seconded. All contracts should be signed by A. Teeter. A vote was taken and the adoption of Resolution No. 2016-39 was accepted. Motion carried.
- A. Teeter passed back the meeting to D. Carey at 4:49pm.
- The Board reviewed the 2016 Inero & Co. audit of District’s 2015 financial activities. The audit for the year ending December 31, 2015 reflects all the improvements the District has made over the last few years and the final numbers were not in the negative as in previous years. The Management Letter will be included for approval and signature at the next Board Meeting. J. Negley also informed the Board he had the first meeting with the County to discuss the budget for 2017. Jon’s target is approximately \$247,000.00 for Operations. He also requested renewal of the \$200,000.00 advance to cover vendor payments for Hydrilla treatments until reimbursement is received from grant funds. Jon also reported the NYS OSC auditors have completed their review and a report will be forthcoming. Jon will reach out to the Finance Committee to schedule an internal review of the District’s financials.

Announcements/Meetings:

D. Carey moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 5:02pm. All in favor. Carried.

Next meeting date:

September 12, 2016 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kym Jackson, Secretary

Dan Carey, Chair